**Society Committee on Education**

### Report for the Council Agenda

This report updates the Council on SOCED’s progress in implementing the actions to which it agreed in New Orleans, and highlights significant accomplishments of the Society’s education programs.

Primary and secondary education

*ACS Guidelines and Recommendations for the Teaching of Middle and High School Chemistry*, approved by SOCED in New Orleans, are at [www.acs.org/mshsguidelines](http://www.acs.org/mshsguidelines).

The American Association of Chemistry Teachers (AACT) continues to increase with over 5,300 members, 88% of whom are K-12 teachers of chemistry. Of these, over 300 are student members, and over 200 are international members. The general resource library has over 600 lesson plans, labs, and demos.

Post-secondary education

At the end of May 2018, there were 19,095 ACS student members, compared to 18,694 at the end of December 2017. There are currently 450 active student chapters (1,177 in total). There are now 52 international student chapters in 23 countries, surpassing the 2018 goal of 50 chapters. National Meeting Travel Grants were awarded to 19 international student chapters for the 256th ACS National Meeting in Boston, MA.

Since its inception in September 2017, the International Student Chapter Activity Grant has been awarded to 21 student chapters. Grants awarded during the first half of 2018 have supported projects ranging from green chemistry conference programming to local science outreach events, industry visits and lectures series, research, regional scientific conference participation, and collaborative student chapter development workshops.

Under the International Student Chapter Activity Grant, ACS supported about 60 students’ travel, from six countries, to participate in the inaugural Atlantic Basin Conference on Chemistry (ABCChem) in January 2018. These students comprised the largest contingent of international student chapter representation at a scientific conference other than ACS national meetings. Attendees from each of the student chapters in Latin America presented research, and several were invited to give pop-up talks during invited speakers’ sessions. In a post-event survey, over 93% of respondents reported extreme satisfaction with their experience at ABCChem.

Since the ChemIDP™ program launched in Fall 2015, extensive enhancements have been made to the web-based tool, including the revamping of the homepage and IDP report and content updates. There have been 3180 accounts created, and 27 workshops were held to increase use and understanding of the tool. Resources are being prepared to support faculty using IDPs with their students.

*Networking Globally: Tips for applying to a faculty or postdoctoral research position in the U.S.*was a new event offered during the 255th ACS National Meeting in New Orleans. It was attended by more than 40 international and national graduate students, postdoctoral scholars and faculty members.

Thirty SCI Scholars were selected from 147 applicants for ten-week paid industrial summer internships at one of 14 participating SCI companies. These undergraduate sophomores and juniors, who are majoring in chemistry or chemical engineering and have a minimum GPA of 3.5, also receive $1,000 for professional development and a certificate. Twenty-four SCI Scholars identified an influential high school chemistry teacher, each of whom will be recognized and receive a $1,000 grant for their school.

256th ACS National Meeting Highlights

At the 256th ACS National Meeting in Boston, events for students and educators will include the Chemistry Teachers Day Program (Sunday, August 19). Councilors and national meeting attendees are encouraged to attend the Undergraduate Research Poster Sessions and the Graduate and Postdoctoral Reception (both on Monday, August 20), along with other sessions focused on undergraduate and graduate students. The ACS Catalyzing Career Networking pilot program will be held for the first time, connecting job seekers (senior undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral scholars) with potential employers from academia and industry, and encouraging career networking during or after research presentations ([www.acs.org/C2N](http://www.acs.org/C2N)).

SOCED continues coordinating programming with the Division of Chemical Education. Such collaborative activities continue to enhance progress towards fulfilling the educational goals and objectives of the ACS strategic plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer B. Nielson, Chair

Society Committee on Education

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